FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

MULTI-HAZARD FLOOD MAP MODERNIZATION

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The primary goals of Map Modernization are to reduce the loss of life and property, minimize suffering and disruption caused by disaster, and better prepare the Nation to address the consequences of flooding and other hazards. Key objectives necessary to meet these goals are outlined below. The contractor's proposal must identify how it will help FEMA achieve these objectives.

(1) ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A PREMIER DATA COLLECTION AND DELIVERY SYSTEM: Create a premier, geo-spatial system that provides easy access to reliable flood hazard data and other information and hazard data to support risk management applications and operations. The target date for the system to be operational is within 90 days of contract award. The system should:

- Be populated with the most reliable data, seeking out existing data and generating new flood risk data where necessary that meets FEMA and other national standards.
- Provide the data, technology platform and analytical tools that enable users to be better informed to analyze the data, and to decide and act appropriately resulting in reduced vulnerability to natural, accidental or man made hazards.
- Allow multiple participants to use and contribute data.
- Be easy to use, flexible, and adaptable, allowing for future technological advances, and must enable archiving of historical data and efficient data storage and retrieval.
- Enable innovative approaches for administering the NFIP at local, state, and national levels.
- Maximize the value of the data collected by making it accessible and useful for numerous applications (e.g. many uses for ground elevation data).
- Ensure information accessible through the system meets national standards with appropriate security.
- Build on the vision of the Multi-Hazard Mapping Initiative (MMI) www.hazardmaps.gov, and HAZUS, FIMA's prototype inter-operable risk assessment systems.
- Make information available to users and stakeholders in a public domain environment where appropriate.
- Not require large amounts of Federal funding support to maintain over the long-term.

(2) ACHIEVE EFFECTIVE PROGRAM MANAGEMENT: Develop and provide a continually improving program management structure that motivates partners to share

responsibilities and aligns partner missions to reduce the nation's vulnerability to flood and other hazards. Such a structure should:

- Clearly identify program management goals including those associated with prioritization and execution of program elements (e.g., flood hazard identification projects, program development activities).
- Produce GIS, final flood maps approved by local governments within 36 months from receipt of study requirements.
- Identify roles and responsibilities for all entities contributing to Multi-Hazard Flood Map Modernization.
- Identify strategies to motivate partners to assume responsibility for the information, resources, data development and data maintenance activities.
- Reduce redundancies and maximize the usefulness and efficiency of partner contributions.
- Develop and manage data standards, product specifications, and quality in a way that minimizes the complexity of the standards and assures data and systems are interoperable.
- Ensure a flexible solution that adapts to evolving NFIP standards, while maintaining continuity of flood hazard mapping services.
- Provide a reliable Performance Management/Earned Value Management system that ensures quality, timeliness and delivery within pricing constraints.
- Monitor and track progress by regularly disseminating reports necessary to evaluate program performance.
- Evaluate program performance and recommend improvements.
- Improve FEMA's program management office's effectiveness through knowledge management, continuous improvement strategies, and innovative technical and business practices.

(3) BUILD AND MAINTAIN MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL PARTNERSHIPS: Foster mutually beneficial partnerships that achieve shared outcomes through the communication of flood risk and other hazard information and improve the systems that support them. Partnerships will result in enhanced delivery of risk management applications and operations. Fostering partnerships and partnership programs should:

- Promote increased partner involvement through the development of an environment of trust where mentoring and assistance ensures that the data is reliable, usable, and accessible for widespread use.
- Ensure that the products resulting from partnerships do not conflict and are complementary, not duplicative.
- Be based on a plan, which allows for the continued addition of partners, and which provides for partners' increased contribution and ownership of the data.
- Increase FEMA's reliance on partners with proven capabilities that assume responsibility for floodplain management and data ownership.
- Result from compelling incentives to strengthen partnerships (e.g., links and commonalities to other programs that could contribute data to this effort are identified and marketed).

(4) EXPAND AND BETTER INFORM THE USER COMMUNITY: Foster public and stakeholder understanding of where to obtain flood and other hazard data and how to use and analyze it in order to make sound decisions to reduce their vulnerability to natural, and man made hazards. Expanding and better informing the user community should:

- Increase support for products and services.
- Be the result of a larger overall continuous improvement strategy that incorporates user evaluation and feedback.
- Be based on effective risk communication strategies, including education of non-traditional users, at both national and project specific levels.
- Implement innovative solutions for the presentation of data that are meaningful to its intended users.

DEFINITIONS:

The following definitions are provided for use in further understanding the requirements of this statement of objectives.

- **Partner:** An entity that leverages resources with FEMA (and others) to achieve a shared vision of hazard information communication. Partners provide access to data that they maintain.
  Premier System: State-of-the art, interoperable, continuously evolving, living, dynamic, integrated system
- **Risk:** The possibility of loss or injury
- **Risk Management:** Risk identification and assessment, risk communication, and risk mitigation
- **Reliable:** Information that balances appropriate hazard mitigation actions with the additional economic burdens on property owners identified as "at risk." Information is based on known standards.
- **Stakeholder:** Has vested interest in the system but may not be contributing data. Current stakeholders include state and local officials, lenders, insurance agents, realtors, homebuilders, environmental groups, engineers, surveyors, planners, flood insurance policy holders, other Federal agencies, Congress, Office of Management and Budget and others.
  User: Technical and non-technical customers accessing the system to obtain information.

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